

## EXHIBIT A

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April 9, 2008

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Deborah Landis, Esq.  
United States Attorney's Office  
Southern District of New York  
One St. Andrew's Plaza  
New York, N.Y. 10007

Re: United States v. Robert Coplan, et al.  
S1 07 Crim. 453 (SHS)

Dear Ms. Landis:

Pursuant to Rule 7(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and Local Criminal Rule 16.1, defendants Robert Coplan, Martin Nissenbaum, Richard Shapiro, and Brian Vaughn ("E&Y defendants"), and defendant Charles Bolton, request that the government provide the following particulars to the allegations in the Superseding Indictment:<sup>1</sup>

1. The Superseding Indictment contains references to a number of entities and individuals who are not identified by name. Please confirm the following:

Law Firm A - Locke, Liddell & Sapp (§ 25)

Law Firm B - Brown & Wood (partner - R.J.Ruble) (§ 27)

Law Firm C - Arnold & Porter (§ 54)

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<sup>1</sup>In light of the volume of documents produced by the Government in this case, to the extent the response to any of the requests to identify information (as opposed to confirm information) is reflected in documents, please identify the relevant documents.

Law Firm D - Proskauer, Rose (§ 54)

Company Z - Bricolage (§ 56)

L. Trading Group - LaRocque Trading (Count Two)

C. Partnership - Cornerstone Partners LP (Count Three)

T.M. - Thomas Munro (Count Four)

K.M. - Kathryn Munro (Count Four)

#### Count One

2. § 5 - Identify the "banks, financial institutions, investment advisory firms, law firms" that each of the defendants worked with to "design, market, and implement" tax shelters.
3. §§ 7, 8, 9, and 10 - Identify the dates, times, and places of "sales presentations" made by each of the defendants, and the client(s) to whom they were made.
4. §§ 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 31 - Identify the individuals and/or entities who the government will claim were co-conspirators of the defendants, as alleged in the foregoing paragraphs of the indictment.
5. State whether the government will claim that each of the above identified co-conspirators were also, as claimed in the Superseding Indictment, a co-conspirator in the alleged fraudulent CDS shelters (§§ 26 and 26(d)), the alleged fraudulent COBRA shelters (§§ 29, 30, (e), 31, and 33), the alleged fraudulent CDS Add-On shelter (§ 53), and the alleged fraudulent PICO shelter (§59). If not, identify which of the co-conspirators were involved in each of the alleged fraudulent tax shelters.
6. §§ 13, 14 - Indicate whether the government will claim that the phrase "tax shelters" includes any tax shelter other than those identified in the Superseding Indictment, and if so, identify the tax shelter.
7. § 14 - State whether the government will claim that there were other "costs" to the client than those enumerated and if so, state what such additional costs were.
8. § 16 - If not already contained in the government's production of "core documents," identify the "transactional documents and other materials containing false and fraudulent descriptions. . ." that the government claims were created by the defendants or that they assisted in creating.
9. § 16- Confirm that the PFC professional who received an email from Robert Coplan in 2001 is

John Shockley.

10. ¶ 17 - Identify the acts of each E&Y defendant which the government will claim helped clients to obtain false and fraudulent opinion letters.

11. ¶ 23(a) - Identify the statute, regulation, or common law standard which required the formation documents of the CDS partnerships to disclose that tax benefits were sought.

12. ¶ 23(b) - Identify the statute, regulation or common law standard that defines "trading partnership."

13. ¶ 23 (c) - Confirm that the identity of the "co-conspirator employed by Bolton companies" is Greg Firtik.

14. ¶ 23 (c) - Confirm that "another co-conspirator" who sent an email in February 2000 is Belle Six.

15. ¶ 23(c) - Identify which of the CDS limited partnerships engaged in "high volume short term trades."

16. ¶ 23 (c) - Identify which of the CDS limited partnerships engaged in trades that were not designed to preserve the client's capital.

17. ¶ 23(e) - Identify the tax code provision which required the client to have \$20,000,000.00 "at risk."

18. ¶ 23(e) - Identify the statute, regulation, or common law standard which defines the term "loan," as contrasted with "purported loan" or "so-called loan."

19. ¶ 23(f) - Identify which prospective CDS clients were told by "E&Y" that the swaps would last for just over one year.

20. ¶ 23(f) - Identify who at "E&Y" told clients that the swaps would last for just over one year.

21. ¶ 23(f) - Confirm that the identity of the co-conspirator who received an email from Brian Vaughn in June 2001 is James Hutchison.

22. ¶ 24 - Identify the "additional documents" that purported to provide non-tax business motivations for steps that were actually tax-motivated.

23. ¶25 - Identify who directed CDS clients to sign the document which related to the diversity of the investments.

24. ¶26(c) - Identify who assured the clients that they would not be liable for any amount over their initial cash contribution and describe the assurances that were provided.
25. ¶29 - Particularize what is meant by the allegation that the options had "some chance" of earning the clients a profit after the fees were paid.
26. ¶ 29 - Identify the services "offered generally" through E&Y's investment advisory services.
27. ¶ 34 - Confirm that the individual within E&Y's management who decided that E&Y would no longer market COBRA to its clients is Michael Kelley.
28. ¶34 - Identify the subject matter experts who expressed the view that COBRA would not survive scrutiny under applicable law, and identify to whom these views were expressed.
29. ¶34 - Identify the "others within E&Y" who objected to COBRA as lacking meaningful business purpose.
30. ¶ 39 - Confirm that the individual who described a "similar idea" to Brian Vaughn in or around May 2000 is Ed Ahrens.
31. ¶40 - Identify who, among the defendants, created a "false cover story" relating to CDS Add-On.
32. ¶40 - Identify who claimed that the "false cover story" had been presented by Charles Bolton, and to whom the claim was made.
33. ¶ 44 - Confirm that the individual "outside of the Viper/SISG group" who created the PowerPoint presentation is Robert Haynie.
34. ¶ 46 - Identify the "E&Y defendants" who offered CDS Add-On to existing entities and the "E&Y personnel" who met with representatives of those entities.
35. ¶46 - Identify the "representatives" and their "entities" who met with E&Y personnel.
36. ¶ 48 - Confirm that Belle Six "crafted a letter for Add-On clients." Identify any other "conspirators" who crafted the letter.
37. ¶49 - Identify the steps taken to conceal from the IRS that the "loans" were not real loans.
38. ¶50 - Confirm that Sandy Maggio of Refco is a "representative of the financial institution" who "assisted in concealing that the loans were not genuine."
39. ¶ 51 - Identify who arranged for CDS Add-On clients to sign representation letters prepared

by Law Firm A.

40. ¶ 57 - Identify who developed a "false cover story" to explain to the IRS.
41. ¶ 58(f) - Identify the "conspirators" who arranged for the balance of E&Y's fee to be paid by the client, and the "conspirators" who "created a phony contract."
42. ¶ 61 - Identify the false and fraudulent statements and omissions that the government will claim were contained in the template disclosure letters drafted by the defendants.
43. ¶ 62(a), (b), (d) - Identify which portions of the testimony the government contends are "false" and which portions of the testimony the government contends are "misleading."
44. ¶ 62 (c) - Identify the portion of the testimony provided by Martin Nissenbaum which was "misleading."
45. ¶ 62(c) - Identify whether or not the government contends that the testimony provided by Martin Nissenbaum was false.
46. ¶ 64 - Identify "E&Y's individual tax shelter clients," and "the entities created by the conspirators," to which the IRS sent Information Document Requests.
47. ¶ 65 - Identify the tax shelter clients and financial advisors who gave false and misleading testimony to the IRS, and identify the statements that were false and misleading.
48. ¶ 71 - Identify the "other E&Y partners" with whom Martin Nissenbaum discussed the possibility of using a tax shelter.
49. ¶ 72 - Confirm that the "tax shelter promoter" was Diversified Group Incorporated ("Diversified"), and that the "attorneys from Law Firm D" are Ira Akselrad and Matthew Sabloff.
50. ¶ 74- Confirm that the "other two owners" of ADFX are Diversified and Alpha Consultants.
51. ¶ 77- Confirm that the "attorney at Law Firm D" who drafted a legal opinion is Ira Akselrad.
52. ¶ 78 - Identify who Martin Nissenbaum allegedly assisted in preparing a "Certificate of Facts."
53. ¶ 81- Identify the "members of the group" who made arrangements for an attorney to represent them.
54. ¶ 81 - Confirm that the attorney who Martin Nissenbaum "assisted" in drafting responses to the IDRs is Abraham Gutwein.

55. ¶81- Specify the conduct by which Nissenbaum “assisted” the attorney in the preparation of responses to the IDRs.
56. ¶82 - Identify all “false and misleading statements” contained in the responses to IDR #2.
57. ¶82(1) - Particularize what is meant by the term “no reasonable possibility” of generating a profit.
58. ¶82- Identify which of the defendants referred PICO clients to Law Firm D for opinion letters.
59. ¶82 - Identify the PICO clients who were referred to Law Firm D for opinion letters.
60. ¶ 96(j) - Identify the false statements and omissions that the government contends were contained in the documents drafted in connection with the voluntary disclosure initiative.
61. ¶97(z) - Specify who approved the hiring of a trading firm without a significant track record.
62. ¶97 (ee), (ff) - Identify the dates, times, and places of the presentations in which Martin Nissenbaum participated, and identify the clients to whom these presentations were made.
63. ¶97 (hhh) - Identify the individual to whom Martin Nissenbaum allegedly provided false and misleading information.
64. ¶97 (hhh) - Particularize the “false and misleading information” which Martin Nissenbaum provided.
65. In paragraphs 8, 31, 32, 33(a), 33(b), 33(c), 34, 51, 58, 62(a), 62(b), 62 (c), 62(d), 65, 66, 67, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 96, 96(g), 97, 103, 105, 110, 113, 120, 122, 124, 127, 140, and 141, the indictment refers to “among other things,” “among other steps,” “among others,” “among the ways,” and “other entities.” With respect to each of these paragraphs, please identify the additional items (e.g., things, reasons, statements, ways, etc.) to which the Grand Jury was referring.
66. With respect to each of the tax shelters as to which the government intends to offer proof, does the government allege that the tax shelter was fraudulent as designed and approved by Ernst & Young, and if so, in what respects?

#### Count Two

67. ¶ 102 - Identify who at E&Y requested that the managing member of L. Trading Group sign a representation letter drafted by Law Firm A.

68. ¶103 - Identify who at E&Y prepared the "amnesty letter" submitted by L. Trading Group to the IRS.

69. ¶104 - Identify the "representative" of L. Trading Group who appeared before the IRS on August 26, 2003.

70. ¶104 - Identify the "false, misleading, and evasive testimony" given by the representative of the L. Trading Group.

Count Three

71. ¶107 - Identify the "E&Y personnel" who met with representatives of C. Partnership in July 2000.

72. ¶110 - Identify who at "E&Y" prepared the letters signed by the C. Partnership partners.

73. ¶112 - Identify the representative of the C. Partnership who appeared before the IRS on December 15, 2003.

74. ¶112 - Identify the "false, misleading, and evasive testimony" given to the IRS during the proceeding on December 15, 2003.

Count Four

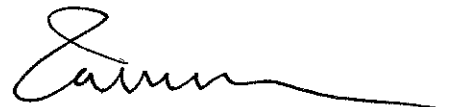
75. ¶117 - Identify the "representative of E&Y" who spoke with K.M. in or about July 2000.

76. ¶121 - Identify who at "E&Y" requested that T.M. and K.M. sign a representation letter that had been drafted by Law Firm A.

77. ¶124 - Identify who at "E&Y" prepared the "amnesty letter" signed by T.M. and K.M.

We would appreciate it if you inform us by April 23, 2008 if it is your intention to provide the information requested. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Isabelle Kirshner

cc: AUSA Lauren Goldberg (via Federal Express)



AUSA Marshall Camp (via Federal Express)  
All Defense Counsel (via First Class Mail)

April 9, 2008

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## EXHIBIT B

**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
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April 22, 2008

By Fax and First Class Mail

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**Re: United States v. Coplan et al., S1 07 Cr. 453 (SHS)**

Dear Counsel:

This letter is in response to the letter of Isabelle Kirshner, Esq., dated April 9, 2008, requesting a bill of particulars on behalf of all the defendants, the March 26, 2008 letter of James Tucker, Esq., requesting a bill of particulars with respect to defendant Brian Vaughn, and the April 15, 2008 letter of Mark Racanelli, Esq., requesting additional particulars on behalf of defendant Charles Bolton. In light of the detailed allegations set forth in the superseding indictment, and the voluminous discovery provided by the Government, no bill of particulars is warranted here.

Counsel List

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As you know, a bill of particulars is not a general investigatory tool for the defense. See *United States v. Salazar*, 485 F.2d 1272, 1277-78 (2d Cir. 1973). Rather, the proper scope and function of a bill of particulars is to provide sufficient information about the nature of the charges to enable a defendant to prepare for trial, to avoid unfair surprise, and to preclude a second prosecution for the same offense. Fed. R. Crim. P. 7(f); see *United States v. Torres*, 901 F.2d 205, 234 (2d Cir. 1990); *United States v. Bortnovsky*, 820 F.2d 572, 574 (2d Cir. 1987); *United States v. Remire*, 400 F.Supp.2d 627, 633 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 30, 2005) (Stein, J.). If the information the defendant seeks "is provided in the indictment or in some acceptable alternate form," such as discovery, no bill of particulars is required. *Bortnovsky*, 820 F.2d at 572; *United States v. Spy Factory*, 960 F. Supp. 684, 690-91 (S.D.N.Y. 1997). The Government is not required to (1) "particularize all of its evidence," *United States v. Cephas*, 937 F.2d 816, 834 (2d Cir. 1991); *Torres*, 901 F.2d at 234 ("acquisition of evidentiary detail" is not the function of a bill of particulars); (2) disclose the precise manner in which the crimes charged in the Indictment were committed, *United States v. Andrews*, 381 F.2d 377, 378 (2d Cir. 1967); *Torres*, 901 F.2d at 233-34 (demands for "whens" and "wheres" and "by whoms" within charged conspiracy are improper attempts at general pre-trial discovery); *Remire*, 400 F.Supp.2d at 633; or (3) provide the defendant with a preview of the Government's case or legal theory. *United States v. Mason*, 2007 WL 541653 at \*5 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 16, 2007) (bill of particulars is not to be used to give defendant a road map to the Government's case); *United States v. Muiet*, 945 F. Supp. 586, 598-99 (S.D.N.Y. 1996).

The superseding indictment in this case is extraordinarily particularized, setting forth at great length and in considerable detail the fraudulent schemes in which the defendants participated, and the means and methods by which they accomplished their criminal objectives. It describes in painstaking detail, over the course of 107 pages, the defendants' efforts to defraud the IRS and to impede and impair the functions of the IRS in ascertaining, evaluating, assessing and collecting hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes, while reaping substantial fees for Ernst & Young and other entities. The allegations describe in detail the conspirators' sustained, multi-year effort to conceal the fraudulent transactions from the IRS and defeat the IRS's efforts to investigate the transactions. In the conspiracy count, the superseding indictment specifically identifies sixty-three overt acts committed in furtherance of the scheme, as well as specifically describing eleven means and methods of the conspirators. The superseding indictment alone is more than enough to advise you of the "specific acts" of which the defendants are accused.

In addition, the Government has provided, and is continuing to provide, you with voluminous discovery, much of which is electronically searchable. The volume of discovery produced, along with the accessible format in which it has been produced, provides you with more than enough information about the nature of the charges and the evidence against the defendants to eliminate any prospect of unfair surprise. Moreover, many of your requests ask the Government to "confirm" information that is patently obvious from the discovery already produced. Such requests are not an appropriate function or use of a bill of particulars.

Thus, although styled as demands for particulars, your requests are in fact simply efforts to determine "evidentiary detail about the Government's case," which defendants have no

Counsel List

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right to obtain by way of a bill of particulars. *See, e.g., Mason*, 2007 WL 541653 at \*5; *United States v. Felix*, 1992 WL 322015 at \*2 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 28, 1992).

Accordingly, the Government declines to provide at this time the particulars requested in your letter. If you wish to provide authority to support your entitlement to any of the particulars requested (none is cited in your letters), we will be happy to review it.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York

By:



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Assistant United States Attorneys  
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